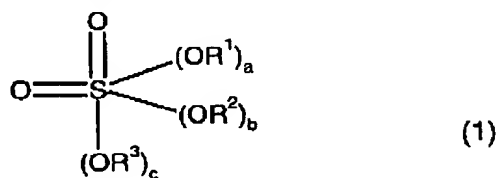


IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

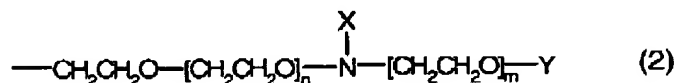
2. (Currently Amended) A mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1 wherein of formula (1)



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic radical having 4 to 30 carbon atoms,

R<sup>2</sup> is a radical of formula (2)



wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 10,

m is an integer from 1 to 10,

X is an aliphatic radical having 12 to 24 carbon atoms, and

Y is H or SO<sub>2</sub>(OM), where M independently represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanol)ammonium ions,

R<sup>3</sup> is a radical of formula (3)



wherein

p is an integer from 4 to 35,

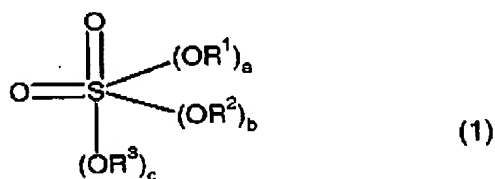
R<sup>4</sup> is H or methyl, and

Z is H, methyl, ethyl, or SO<sub>2</sub>(OM), where M independently represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl)-

ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanol)ammonium ions,  
and

a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is 2, obtained by reacting sulfonyl chloride with a mixture of the alcohols R<sup>1</sup>OH, R<sup>2</sup>OH, and R<sup>3</sup>OH, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> have the same meanings as for formula (1) except that Y is exclusively hydrogen and Z is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl.

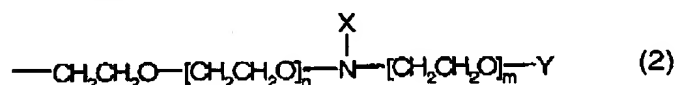
3. (Currently Amended) ~~A mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1~~  
A mixture of sulfuric esters of formula (1)



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic radical having 8 to 20 carbon atoms,

R<sup>2</sup> is a radical of formula (2)



wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 5,

m is an integer from 1 to 5,

X is an aliphatic radical having 16 to 22 carbon atoms, and

Y is H

R<sup>3</sup> is a radical of formula (3)



wherein

p is an integer from 9 to 22,

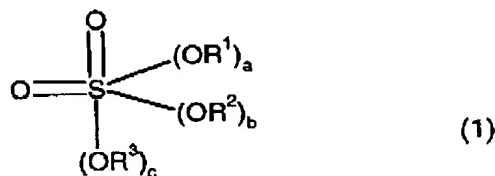
R<sup>4</sup> is H, and

Z is H, and

a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is 2, obtained by reacting sulfonyl chloride with a mixture of the alcohols  $R^1OH$ ,  $R^2OH$ , and  $R^3OH$ , wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ , and  $R^3$  have the same meanings as for formula (1) except that Y is exclusively hydrogen and Z is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl.

4.-9. (Canceled)

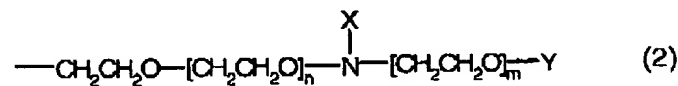
10. (Currently Amended) An organic or aqueous-organic formulation comprising 25 to 70% by weight of a mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1 of formula (1)



wherein

$R^1$  is an aliphatic radical having 1 to 30 carbon atoms,

$R^2$  is a radical of formula (2)



wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 30,

m is an integer from 1 to 29,

X is an aliphatic radical having 4 to 24 carbon atoms, and

Y is H or  $\text{SO}_2(\text{OM})$ , where M represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra( $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{-alkyl}$ )ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra( $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6\text{-alkanol}$ )ammonium ions,

$R^3$  is a radical of formula (3)



wherein

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p is an integer from 4 to 35,  
R<sup>4</sup> is H, methyl, ethyl, phenyl, or mixtures of H and methyl, and  
Z is H, methyl, ethyl, or SO<sub>2</sub>(OM), where M represents hydrogen, alkali  
metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl)ammonium, or  
mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkanol)ammonium ions, and  
a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is  
2, obtained by reacting sulfonyl chloride with a mixture of the alcohols R<sup>1</sup>OH, R<sup>2</sup>OH,  
and R<sup>3</sup>OH, wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, and R<sup>3</sup> have the same meanings as for formula (1) except  
that Y is exclusively hydrogen and Z is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl,  
wherein the organic component of the formulation comprises one or more  
organic solvents selected from the group consisting of mono-, di-, and oligoethylene  
glycols, oligopropylene glycols, and oligoethylene/ propylene glycols, and mono- and  
diethers thereof.

11.-21.(Cancelled)